

From : ["Brooks, Karl" </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP \(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT\)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=78AC91F4DB6D44F58424B504D5AA3C7D-BROOKS, KARL>](#)
To: [Hammerschmidt](#)
["Ron; Hague"](#)
[Mark](#)

CC:

Date: 5/14/2013 12:45:50 PM

Subject: FW: St. Louis Post-Dispatch – Owners of smelly Bridgeton landfill must fix the problem this summer, attorney general says

Pls ensure we are ready at congl/state elected briefings to discuss EPA views on statements made in last 2 grafs by AG, AAG, and residents/env groups.

tx

Karl Brooks
Regional Administrator
EPA Region 7
913-551-7006

From: Bryan, David
Sent: Tuesday, May 14, 2013 12:34 PM
To: R7 Senior Staff
Subject: St. Louis Post-Dispatch – Owners of smelly Bridgeton landfill must fix the problem this summer, attorney general says

Owners of smelly Bridgeton landfill must fix the problem this summer, attorney general says

St. Louis Post-Dispatch – 5/14/13 - By Blythe Bernhard

http://www.stltoday.com/news/local/metro/owners-of-smelly-bridgeton-landfill-must-fix-the-problem-this/article_32efa9b7-b8ed-57ab-a1d6-13a66a0775c2.html

Missouri Attorney General Chris Koster announced an agreement this morning with Republic Services Inc. including plans for a plastic cap on its Bridgeton landfill that could lessen foul odors by early September.

Koster filed a lawsuit against Republic on March 27 alleging violations of state environmental laws and said Monday his office would aggressively follow the company's compliance in what he called a serious situation of an underground fire at the landfill.

Today's announcement followed an injunction filed Monday outlining the attorney general's requirements of Republic Services. The company can be fined up to \$10,000 a day if the agreement for monitoring and containing the odors isn't reached on time. The injunction is not a settlement of the lawsuit, which is intended to address long-term environmental impacts, Koster said.

A plastic cap covering part of the landfill known as the south quarry is scheduled to be in place by early September, Koster said. Before the cap can be placed, the company must remove unstable concrete pipes that could sink and allow in oxygen to stoke the fire. The excavation work is expected to make the odors worse for the next month.

"It is important to know that this critical work has to be completed to control the odors long term," said Tim Trost of Republic Services in a prepared statement. The company has spent more than \$20 million dollars on efforts to collect the gases being released by the smoldering waste.

The company agreed to pay for voluntary hotel stays for residents within a one-mile radius of the landfill from May 20 to June 14, as odors are expected to worsen. Koster said there will be increased police patrols in the surrounding neighborhoods where residents can choose to evacuate, including the Spanish Village subdivision, the Terrisan Reste mobile home park and some condominium buildings at Carrollton Village.

Noxious odors are not an indication of an increased health risk from toxic pollutants, Koster said. The state health department has said the odors can irritate sinus passages and worsen symptoms of asthma and other respiratory illnesses.

Residents and environmental groups have expressed concerns about the fire's proximity to radioactive materials stored at nearby West Lake Landfill. Koster called the possibility of fire reaching West Lake as remote and a worse-case scenario. Emergency plans include building a barrier between the two landfills with help from the Environmental Protection Agency.

Joseph Bindbeutel, an assistant attorney general, said three weeks ago the fire was considered contained at a distance of 1,200 feet from West Lake but that the situation is changing rapidly.